



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisunta Cúnta,
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta –
Rochtain & Comhtháthú

Aonad 4, Lárionad Gnó,
Tullach Mhór, Co Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

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11th October 2024

Deputy Pádraig Mac Lochlainn,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Mac Lochlainn,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Questions, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 39087/24

To ask the Minister for Health the percentage of home care support for older persons that is provided directly by the HSE; and the percentage of home care support for older persons that is provided indirectly by private home support companies in every county across the State, in tabular form. -Pádraig Mac Lochlainn

PQ 39088/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of healthcare assistants/home support workers per home support resource manager in every county across the State, in tabular form. - Pádraig Mac Lochlainn

The Home Support Service is funded by Government to deliver a volume of service each year as approved in the HSE National Service Plan. It is a non-statutory service and access to the current service is based on assessment of the person's needs by the HSE, having regard to the available resources and the competing demands for the service.

Demand for home support continues to increase due to population growth and the increasing dependency of the growing numbers of people aged ≥80years, within the over 65 years' cohort. Recruitment and retention of home support staff for both direct and indirect service provision remains a significant challenge leading to capacity issues cross the Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs). The home support service is managed by the local Home Support Management Team within each Community Healthcare Organisation/Health Region to ensure that this key service is available at the required times, in a flexible way and at the appropriate standard to support clients' assessed needs.

With regard to your request for data relating to "*the percentage of home care support for older persons that is provided indirectly by private home support companies in every county across the State*", please see Appendix 1 below, which sets out the percentage split of direct and indirect Home Support service provision, by CHO, as at 31st August 2024.

Please note that the data requested in relation to "*the number of healthcare assistants/home support workers per home support resource manager in every county across the State*", is not currently collated nationally. This information may be available locally. Notwithstanding this, please see Appendix 2 below which details the number of Healthcare Assistants (Home Support) directly employed by the HSE, at the point in time date of 31st August 2024, by CHO area.

Please find attached data as requested. The HSE is currently transitioning to the new Regional Health Areas (RHAs) structure in line with Sláintecare. Pending finalisation of the structures and the associated data reporting pathways, activity is provided at CHO level.



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Patricia Whelehan'.

Patricia Whelehan
AND Services for Older People
National Office, Access and Integration



Appendix 1. Details the percentage split of HSE (direct) and Private (indirect) Home Support service provision, in each CHO, as at 31st August 2024.

CHO	Description	2024	
		% Direct	% Indirect
National Total		37.2%	62.8%
CHO1	Total Hours Delivered	72.4%	27.6%
CHO2	Total Hours Delivered	40.3%	59.7%
CHO3	Total Hours Delivered	43.9%	56.1%
CHO4	Total Hours Delivered	76.3%	23.7%
CHO5	Total Hours Delivered	69.3%	30.7%
CHO6	Total Hours Delivered	0.0%	100.0%
CHO7	Total Hours Delivered	11.7%	88.3%
CHO8	Total Hours Delivered	32.8%	67.2%
CHO9	Total Hours Delivered	0.0%	100.0%

*Please note 2024 data quoted is preliminary and may be subject to change. Data return rate at 31st August 2024 YTD was **96.9%**.*

Appendix 2. Details the total number of directly employed Healthcare Assistants (Home Support), in each CHO at 31st August 2024.

CHO	Description	2024 YTD (Aug)
		Headcount
National Total		5,024
CHO1	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	1,060
CHO2	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	476
CHO3	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	516
CHO4	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	1,416
CHO5	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	797
CHO6	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	-
CHO7	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	167
CHO8	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	592
CHO9	Healthcare Assistant (Home Support)	-

*Please note 2024 data quoted is preliminary and may be subject to change. Data return rate at 31st August 2024 YTD was **96.9%**.*